

Minutes
Western Region Council Meeting
February 21, 2008
Richfield, Utah

Attendance: - Lis Barker, Mike Beacco, Cindy Greathouse, Dale Peel, Sandy Phillips, Wayne Shamo, Roene Shaw, John Slade, LaVoy Starley, Leon Stewart, Jan Thompson

DWS Staff: - Ann Barnson, Jolene Bundy, Janice Davis, Mary Excell, Michelle Harrison, Lela King, Kathy Leydsman, Jackie Nielson

Minutes: Jolene Bundy

Educational Session

Welcome – Jan Thompson

Jan welcomed everyone to this session of the Council Meeting. She asked “What is Workforce Development?” Then asked if they thought there should be a national Workforce Development? Her presentation then included information on:

- * The Wagner-Peyser funds which have funded the national employment system. She said America’s job Bank no longer exists and has been taken over by a private job bank. Utah and many other states have free access to this job bank.
- * Jan did a PowerPoint presentation talking about Workforce Development, the part it plays in the economy of the state, she talked about key partners in Workforce Development, and the role the Region Council plays in it.
- * Jan talked about how Workforce Development works in a couple of other states. She talked about Texas and how difficult and confusing their system is. She said the nation is looking at Utah as a model as how to set up their Workforce Development Systems.
- * Jan explained what our One Stop delivery system is and how it works.
- * The discussions included the part education plays in workforce development and some things it is doing to develop a workforce to fill the jobs available. They talked about the cooperation between education, Voc Rehab, and other state agencies.
- * Lis said we all need to have a purpose in coming to this meeting. Each one on this council has a part and a purpose in Workforce Development.
- * Jan asked “What is your return on your investment for the time spent here on the council? She said private industry, education, state agencies, etc. all need to be brought together to work out the problems to improve the workforce and the economy. Then she asked “If it’s not this council that does this, then where? If not us, then who?”
- * Jan mentioned some of the signs of success this council has had in the past 10 years which include the health care industry, in the construction industry with construction career days, and the manufacturing career days. Leon talked about the classes for LPN, RN, and CNA that are now happening because of our council

discussions. Jan said this council has made a difference and hopes they all feel and recognize the difference they have made.

- * She gave a quote she found that said “There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer.” She said that she felt that was fitting for the members of this council.

Agenda Item: Industry Sectors – Development Deliverables and/or Youth Council Meeting

The Youth Council was dismissed to have the Youth Council Meeting. The remaining committee’s remained together to discuss the industry sectors and come up with the deliverables for those industries.

Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

Welcome – Dale Peel

Dale welcomed everyone to the Council meeting.

Outstanding Customer Recognition: Dale

Dale said we have some special WIA outstanding customer awards to hand out. The DWS Counselors are here with them to recognize them for their accomplishments.

- * Janice Davis is the DWS counselor for Joy Hudspeth. Joy was unable to attend but Janice told about her accomplishments and accepted the award for her and said she would take the award to her.
- * Wendell Thompson was recognized by his counselor Jackie Nielson as an outstanding WIA youth customer. He was presented an award for his accomplishments and Jackie told why he had been nominated for the award.
- * Allen Penrod is the DWS counselor for Tiffany Ricketts. Tiffany was not able to attend so Allen told why she was nominated and accepted the award for her.
- * Palisade State Park was recognized as an outstanding business customer by Allen Penrod who told why they were nominated for the award. Brad Bird and Shon Tripp were there to receive the award.

Approval of Minutes – Dale

Dale presented the minutes from the last meeting and asked if anyone had any changes. There were no changes. Blair Painter made a motion to approve them. Cindy Greathouse seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

New Members

Lorri said we have a new member. Cody Gower from Auto Trim Design in St. George has agreed to be a member of the council. He wasn’t there today however but is a new member. We still have a need for 2 small employers on the council – One from 5 county and one from 6 county. Also an employee representative from 5 county.

Agenda Item – Region Update – Jan Thompson

- * Jan went over the Legislative Update that was sent out in the region meeting packet. She explained what the proposed legislation means to DWS and clarified any questions. They included:
 - o Employment Security Act Amendments
 - o The Disclosure of Information by the Department of Workforce Services. She said this came about because employees would have an individual come in to the office using someone else's social security number and by law was unable to let anyone know. Because of confidentiality they couldn't even tell the individual whose number was being used that someone else was using it. This bill makes it possible to disclose that information to the right authority.
 - o Child Care Providers. She asked Lis if she had anything to say here. Lis explained that this bill requires criminal background checks on all child care providers who are being paid through our child care services. She said it doesn't matter if they are a family member or if a family member just lives there that has a felony in his background; they will not pay for child care with that provider. This is meant to be for the safety of the children.
 - o Independent Contractor Database – this will set up a data base on independent contractors to help enforce the laws and regulations for contractors.
 - o Unemployment Insurance Contribution Rate amendment – This defines the rate for employer contributions.
 - o Then Jan talked about the Appropriation Requests DWS has asked for. They included TANF MOE, the General Assistance Program, Child Care Step down, GED Support Program, and the Refugee Capacity Building.
- * Jan then talked about the closing of the Fillmore Office. She said 6 months ago a concern about that closing was brought before the Council by members from the Fillmore and surrounding communities. Jan said we still have a staff member housed at the City Office building on Fridays and the phone number from the Fillmore office is still working but rings in the Delta office. Since then they have kept track of the customers from that part of the county. She said the numbers of customers from that side of the county has increased and no one has reported not being able to get served or unable to get a DWS staff. They are still keeping track of the statistics but they do not know of any lost customers by closing the office in Fillmore. They will continue to monitor that.
- * Jan said on January 4, 2008 they were notified by the Department Of Labor of a rescission in the WIA funds. Jan passed out a paper with the WIA De-Obligation and TANF Non-REP Obligation status Report showing the dollar amounts de-obligated. She said DWS is committed to not let this hurt the current customers in the program. They will be looking at ways to switch funding sources if necessary and where possible. She emphasized that they are not saying WIA funding is gone. Also youth customers may still be enrolled in WIA. Even though some of the funds are gone they can still provide other services without obligating funds. They will go ahead with the Reality Store and Reality Town.
- * The council members requested a report on the incumbent worker program. Jan said 3 were approved from our region. They are sorting out the funding now then a new year begins in April which they will be taking applications for.

State Council Update – Dale

- * Dale said they talked about the incumbent worker program at the State Council meeting. They said any employers wanting to apply or those that were denied and would like to try again for the incumbent worker program can get the reasons for denial from the state web site.
- * Dale said the state council talked about the out of state recruitment campaign. There are a number of jobs they have not been able to fill in the state and as a result are having to recruit out of state to fill the positions.
- * The state council talked about the Western Governors University. It is an on-line university for those in rural Utah so they can take courses necessary to gain a degree and can take the courses on-line.
- * They talked about the industry strategies that have been talked about in this meeting today.
- * They talked about people with disabilities. He said if employers are willing to hire employees with disabilities, there is a special code number to put on the application that will allow applications from disabled individuals to come up in the searches.

Priority Points – Lorri

Lorri talked about the WIA Priority Points. The information is found in the meeting packet. She said the State council approved a “range” the priority points can be in. The councils will operate within the approved range until factors dictate a need for a change. Then the changes will have to go back before the State Council for approval. Jan said the idea for this change actually came from the Western Region Council.

Agenda Item – Vendor Approval – Ann Barnson

Ann presented the information from the Dental Assistant School of Southern Utah and said they are seeking approval as a training vendor. The Vendor committee met and approved them. Now they need to be approved by the full council. Ann said the pathway is for the vendor to send the information to the State Program Specialist first. They review for completeness and to make sure they qualify. Then it comes to the Region Council. After the Region Council approves it, it goes to the State council for approval.

- * LaVoy made a motion to approve the Dental Assistant School of Southern Utah as a training vendor. The motion was seconded and a vote taken. However, there were not enough members present for a quorum to make a decision. All of those present were unanimous in their vote to approve the vendor. Ann said she will send out an email to those not here today to get enough votes for a quorum to approve or disapprove.

Agenda Item – Industry Sector Deliverables – Dale

- * Dale said during the morning session the committee’s talked about the industry deliverables. They talked about Health Care and Kathy Leydsman gave the notes from the discussion with their suggestions for deliverables. They felt they needed someone from education to be involved in the discussions because they are such a big part of the deliverables.

- * LaVoy said in the state education meetings they have talked about all of the things Kathy mentioned and they are working on them. They also talked about a 30 hour cap – which means there is a cap of 30 hours on the credits a student can take at a time. Education would like to see this cap lifted.
- * LaVoy said the CTE's are working on "work based learning" which partnerships with industry for learning on the job.
- * Dale said he would like to see a list of all the career options be available and in the hands of all high school students.
- * **Leon will report on what is being done in the education meetings and what the schools are doing.** The deliverables Kathy mentioned will be incorporated into the ones the state council is working on.
- * It was suggested a telephone conference call might be necessary before the next meeting in May. **LaVoy said he can do a presentation on what they (education) are doing in that group.** Jan asked if anything was time sensitive that could not wait until the May meeting. They decided there was nothing that couldn't wait until the next meeting in May.
- * Leon said there are items before the legislature now that the schools could use the support of the council on. He did not say what those items are but suggested everyone become active in the legislative process and support those items that affect the schools.
- * Jan asked if the term Community College has changed and if there are still any community colleges in Utah. She asked if the CTE's are considered a community college. Leon said a community college would have to be a 2 year college and CTE doesn't fit that. Utah still has the Salt lake Community College.

Agenda Item: Youth Council – Mike Beacco

Mike reported that the Youth Council discussed the Incentive Plan for WIA youth and made suggestions for a couple of incentives not listed. There were other items for discussion but time didn't allow.

Other business:

Jan introduced Mary Excell. Mary is the new manager of the Cedar City Employment center replacing Liz Lobato.

Jan also introduced Lela King as the new manager in the Richfield Employment Center replacing Judy Ainsworth.

- * Lela was asked to give information on Sevier County. She did it in the form of a game to see who could answer the questions about Sevier County. The winner of each question won a "coaster" with the DWS logo on.

Motion to Adjourn.

Following Lela's game, a motion to adjourn was made by Roene Shaw. It was seconded by Mike Beacco. The meeting was adjourned until May 15th.

Action Items May 17, 2007			
Item #	Person responsible for Action Item	Action Item	Date to be completed
1.	Ann Barnson	Send out an email to council members not in attendance to vote on the Vendor Approval for Dental Assistant School of Southern Utah.	ASAP
2.	Leon Stewart	Report on what the Educational System is doing in regards to the education deliverables the council is working on.	May 15 th meeting
3	LaVoy Starley	Report on what the CTE's are doing in regards to the deliverables we talked about.	May 15 th meeting

Conclusions/Decisions	
1.	The minutes from the last meeting were passed.
2.	The industry deliverables were discussed in committee's and agreed on.
3.	Dental Assistant School of Southern Utah was approved by those present but it still needed more members to vote to be enough for a quorum.
4.	A complete list of Career possibilities would be helpful if made available to all high school students.